

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the output comprises printing.
4. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the universal character set is Unicode.
5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating a code page output corresponding to characters matched.
6. (Amended) A system for selecting a font to output a message to a printer, comprising:

a processor unit for creating a linked list of structures containing categories of information about available system fonts, for evaluating characters of a message to match against the linked list and for traversing the linked list to output the characters of the message.
7. (Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the processor unit compares each character of the message in a universal character set to a set of available system fonts.
8. (Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the processor unit tests the ability of each structure to express each character.
9. (Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein the universal character set is Unicode.
10. (Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the processor unit generates a code page output corresponding to characters matched.
11. (Amended) A system for evaluating characters in a message to output to a printer, comprising:

processor means for creating a linked list of structures containing categories of information about available system fonts, for evaluating characters of a message to match against the linked list and for traversing the linked list to output the characters of the message; and

printer output interface means, connected to the processor means, to output the characters of the message to a printer by traversing the linked list.

Sub C6 12. (Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the processor means compares each character of the message in a universal character set to a set of available system fonts.

13. (Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the processor means tests the ability of each of the structures to express each character.

14. (Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the universal character set is Unicode.

15. (Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the processor generates a code page output corresponding to characters matched.

Sub B4 16. (Amended) A storage medium for storing machine readable code, the machine readable code being executable to select a font to output a message to a printer according to the method comprising:

A1 creating a linked list of structures containing categories of information about available system fonts;

evaluating characters of a message to match against the linked list; and

traversing the linked list to output the characters of the message.

Sub 17. (Amended) The storage medium of claim 16, wherein the evaluating step comprises comparing each character of the message in a universal character set to a set of available system fonts.

18. (Amended) The storage medium of claim 17, wherein the step of comparing each character comprises testing the ability of each structure to express each character.

19. (Amended) The storage medium of claim 18, wherein the universal character set is Unicode.